

CONTINUED COUNCIL MEETING AUGUST 24, 2010

The continued meeting of the Council of the Town of Altavista was held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 510 Seventh Street on August 24, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

1. Mayor Burgess called the meeting to order and presided.

Council members

present:

Mr. J.R. Burgess
Mr. Ronald Coleman
Mrs. Beverley Dalton
Mr. Bill Ferguson
Mr. Michael Mattox
Mrs. Rayetta Webb

Council members

absent:

Mr. Jay Higginbotham

Also present:

Mr. J. Waverly Coggsdale, III, Town Manager
Mr. W. Morgan Allen, Jr., Treasurer
Mr. Dan Witt, Assistant to the Town Manager
Mr. John Eller, Town Attorney
Mrs. Mary Hall, Administration

2. Utility Committee Report

Mrs. Dalton advised the Utility Committee has been reviewing the Water and Wastewater Revenue Requirements. Council was presented with results of this study with Mrs. Dalton explaining the rate study process. Mrs. Dalton mentioned among the Towns queried, the Town of Altavista offered the lowest water and sewer rates. The Utility Committee is proposing a seven percent rate increase over a five year period.

Mayor Burgess mentioned for a long time water and sewer has not been paying for itself and funds have been pulled from other sources.

Mrs. Dalton felt the Enterprise Fund needs to be able to fund itself.

Mrs. Webb felt some type of perpetual funding should be in place to fund emergency repair, additional debt service, long term system replacement and expansion of the service territory.

Council agreed to address this issue at the September 14, 2010 Council meeting.

3. Altavista Armory Discussion

Mayor Burgess advised the Town of Altavista has acquired ownership of the Altavista Armory from Campbell County. In doing so, Council needs to decide the future use of the building. Mayor Burgess recommended a committee be created of Council members, Altavista Chamber of Commerce members, local organizations, and citizens, allowing this committee to report back to Council.

Mrs. Dalton stated the marching orders should be determining how to enhance life in Altavista in terms of this building; what could it be used for, what we should do with it, what would make it a better place.

Mr. Mattox reminded Council the Armory is located in a residential neighborhood and asked however the building is used, that it be in a manner that is not disruptive to this neighborhood.

Mr. Rudolph “Rudy” Webster, Commander of Memorial Post 36 Altavista, mentioned to Council he has had an opportunity to tour the building and has some ideas on how the building can benefit the community.

4. Uncle Billy’s Day (Chamber of Commerce)

Mr. Coggsdale reminded Council at the last Council meeting, the Altavista Chamber of Commerce requested to move the Uncle Billy’s Day festivities to English Park. Mr. Coggsdale mentioned the next streetscape project would involve Main Street and this construction could possibly be in process, based on the timeframe, during Uncle Billy’s Day.

Mrs. Patty Eller, President of the Altavista Chamber of Commerce, stated the request made to Council last month was to move the food vendors and crafters to English Park as the committee feels this would reduce the number of volunteers needed and would be easier to manage logistically.

Mayor Burgess stated he has not received any comments from citizens concerning moving the festivities.

Mr. Ferguson stated the festival was brought up town because of the request from the citizens. It is his hope that this will be a one-time deal. Mr. Ferguson felt there wasn’t much choice with the downtown construction in progress and the possibility of this going on during Uncle Billy’s Day.

Mrs. Dalton stated she is supportive of the Chamber. It is not easy to find an organization that is willing to plan and manpower such an event. She stated she is willing to support whatever the Chamber is willing to do.

Mr. Mattox stated he felt it would work either way regardless of it being at the park or on the street.

Mayor Burgess stated he too would support the request.

Mr. Coleman felt the festival has done well on Seventh Street and would like to see it continue on Seventh Street. Mr. Coleman stated he understood the logistics with this being the first time the Chamber has organized this event and would support their decision. Mr. Coleman asked that the UBD Committee consider some type of activity for the Seventh Street area on Friday night.

Mrs. Webb stated she was disappointed with this decision. She likes having the festivities on Seventh Street. She was disappointed to think the Altavista Chamber with 212 members might not have enough manpower to run this event. She will support the Chamber decision but hopes the festival will be back on Seventh Street for the next event.

A motion was made by Mrs. Dalton, seconded by Mr. Mattox, to accept the Altavista Chamber of Commerce request to move the Uncle Billy’s Day festivities to English Park.

Motion carried:

VOTE:	Mr. J.R. Burgess	Yes
	Mr. Ronald Coleman	Yes
	Mrs. Beverley Dalton	Yes
	Mr. Bill Ferguson	Yes
	Mr. Michael Mattox	Yes
	Mrs. Rayetta Webb	Yes

5. Downtown Infrastructure/Streetscape Scheduling

Mr. Coggsdale advised Council of an issue with the current Streetscape project.

Mr. Proctor Harvey, HDLA, and Mr. Tim Wagner, Wiley & Wilson contacted Mr. Coggsdale in regards to a miscalculation in quantities of clay pavers associated with the crosswalks and sidewalks. Mr. Coggsdale noted \$56,000 of streetscape funds is needed to build the project as designed. Staff working with the Design team has identified modifications and other savings in the amount of \$15,000.

Mr. Harvey and Mr. Wagner addressed Council in regard to this matter. Mr. Harvey stated this miscalculation was due to a section (at Seventh Street and Broad) being left out of the plans and apologized for the error.

Mr. Coggsdale stated the Town has three agreements for which we are under agreement and for each the Town has to match a certain portion of the money. One grant has been awarded will come early 2011. All the funding put together, subtracting what has been spent on design, and what has been spent on the present project, the range of funds is \$700,000. Projections for the next project are in the \$500,000 range. Hopefully in the next application, the Town will receive \$411,000. Mr. Coggsdale felt there would be approximately \$750,000 to finish the next two phases.

Mr. Wagner offered had this not been deleted from the plans, the cost would have been \$56,000 more.

Mrs. Webb questioned where these funds would be pulled from.

Mr. Coggsdale stated they would utilize more funding than was anticipated at bid time and have less funding for the next phases and amend the application that is about to be submitted.

A motion was made by Mrs. Dalton, seconded by Mr. Ferguson, to maintain the scope of the project and proceed recognizing there will be a cost overrun due to quantity amendment.

Motion carried:

VOTE:	Mr. J.R. Burgess	Yes
	Mr. Ronald Coleman	Yes
	Mrs. Beverley Dalton	Yes
	Mr. Bill Ferguson	Yes
	Mr. Michael Mattox	Yes
	Mrs. Rayetta Webb	Yes

6. Transit System Update

Mr. Coggsdale advised Mr. Dan Witt has been working towards getting the Transit System up and running and presented Council with some names for the new bus service. This item will be addressed at the September 14, 2010 Council meeting.

7. VDOT—Truck Route Public Input

Mr. Coggsdale presented Council with a public notice from the Virginia Department of Transportation requesting written comments regarding the restriction of through traffic.

Mr. Mattox stated the issue with this is chip trucks are carrying chips to Hurt's power station in Pittsylvania County and they want them to run through Altavista so it doesn't mess up their road. Pittsylvania County gets the tax benefits. He stated the trucks continue to travel on Lynch Mill Road against the agreement with the Town of Altavista which requires using the north Main Street entrance.

Mr. Coggsdale clarified this public notice is for all trucks not just chip trucks. The Town has an agreement with Dominion Virginia Power regarding chip trucks coming into Town.

Mrs. Dalton suggested addressing the public notice with written comments.

Mr. Coggsdale stated he was sure Council was in opposition of alternate Route#2 which would put truck traffic on Bedford Avenue (Route 43) and asked Council their thoughts on proposed alternate Route #1?

Mr. Mattox stated every chip truck coming through the Town is not going to the Dominion Virginia Power Plant in the Town but to the Hurt Plant and Pittsylvania County knew how many this would be when the plant was built. The Town of Hurt wants to ban the trucks from coming through their Town. Mr. Mattox stated the County is reaping the benefits not the Town of Altavista.

Mr. Coggsdale asked Council if they were proposing to not restrict all trucks.

Mrs. Webb stated the restriction should be for everybody not just the chip trucks.

Mr. Mattox mentioned the special use permit allows for a specific number of chip trucks in the Town per day.

A motion was made by Mr. Mattox, seconded by Mrs. Dalton, to oppose both alternate routes as presented in Virginia Department of Transportation public notice.

Motion carried:

VOTE:	Mr. J.R. Burgess	Yes
	Mr. Ronald Coleman	Yes
	Mrs. Beverley Dalton	Yes
	Mr. Bill Ferguson	Yes
	Mr. Michael Mattox	Yes
	Mrs. Rayetta Webb	Yes

8. Other Items

Mayor Burgess asked if there was anything else to bring before Council.

The meeting ended at 7:58 p.m.

J. R. Burgess, Mayor

W. Morgan Allen, Jr., Clerk